

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A fullerene-antibiotic conjugate comprising:
 - at least one bone-targeting moiety ~~targeting agent~~ coupled to a fullerene molecule;
 - at least one linking molecule comprising a serinol; and
 - at least two vancomycin ~~antibiotic~~ molecules coupled to the fullerene molecule,wherein at least two of the at least two vancomycin ~~antibiotic~~ molecules are coupled to the fullerene molecule via the at least one linking molecule, ~~and wherein the at least one targeting agent is selected from the group consisting of bone-targeting moieties, bacteria-targeting moieties, sporulating microbe-targeting moieties, an antibody, and combinations thereof.~~
2. (Previously Presented) The fullerene-antibiotic conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the fullerene comprises C₆₀.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The fullerene-antibiotic conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the conjugate comprises more than one linking molecule and wherein each linking molecule couples at least two ~~antibiotic~~ vancomycin molecules to the fullerene molecule.
5. (Currently Amended) The fullerene-antibiotic conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the conjugate includes at least three ~~antibiotic~~ vancomycin molecules per C₆₀ center, at least two of the at least three ~~antibiotic~~ vancomycin molecules coupled to the fullerene molecule via a single linking molecule.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the at least one ~~targeting agent~~ bone targeting moiety comprises diphosphonate.

8-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:
a fullerene-antibiotic conjugate including at least one bone-targeting moiety ~~targeting agent~~
coupled to a fullerene molecule;
at least one linking molecule comprising a serinol; and
at least two vancomycin ~~antibiotic~~-molecules coupled to the fullerene molecule, wherein at
least two of the at least two vancomycin ~~antibiotic~~-molecules are coupled to the fullerene molecule
via the single linking molecule, and ~~wherein the at least one targeting agent comprises at least one
selected from the group consisting of bone-targeting moieties, bacteria-targeting moieties,
sporulating microbe-targeting moieties, antigen binding sites, and combinations thereof, said~~
conjugate being present in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

24.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein said conjugate
is water-soluble.

28. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, wherein said
conjugate is water-soluble.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the at least one linking
molecule comprises a serinol and the targeting agent~~bone targeting moiety comprises
diphosphonate.

30. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 1 comprising eight linking molecules,
wherein each linking molecule is a serinol group.

31. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23, ~~wherein the at
least one linking molecule comprises a serinol and the targeting agent~~bone-targeting moiety
comprises diphosphonate.

32. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 23 comprising eight linking molecules, wherein each linking molecule is a serinol group.

33-36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) A fullerene-vancomycin conjugate comprising:

at least one ~~targeting agent~~ bone targeting moiety coupled to a fullerene molecule;

at least one linking molecule comprising a malonate, a serinol, or combinations thereof; and

at least two vancomycin molecules coupled to the fullerene molecule, wherein at least two of the at least two vancomycin molecules are coupled to the fullerene molecule via the at least one linking molecule, ~~and wherein the at least one targeting agent is selected from the group consisting of bone targeting moieties, bacteria targeting moieties, sporulating microbe targeting moieties, an antibody, and combinations thereof.~~

38. (Currently Amended) The fullerene-vancomycin conjugate according to claim 37 ~~claim 36~~, wherein the fullerene comprises C₆₀.

39. (Currently Amended) The fullerene-vancomycin conjugate according to claim 37 ~~claim 36~~, wherein the conjugate comprises more than one linking molecule and wherein each linking molecule couples at least two vancomycin molecules to the fullerene molecule.

40. (Currently Amended) The fullerene-vancomycin conjugate according to ~~claim 36~~ claim 37, wherein the at least one targeting agent comprises diphosphonate.

41-43. (Canceled)